

Law

To the Honorable, the Board of Trustees,
Indiana University.

Gentlemen:

I beg leave to lay before you an account of the work done in the Department of Law of the University during the collegiate year now closing; and also of the attendance by classes and otherwise and to make such suggestions with reference to the future as may be deemed worthy of your attention.

The course of study as outlined in the Catalogue for 1892-'93 and also in the Law School Announcement published at the close of the last collegiate year, has been very closely followed during the present year. We have given to our students all the work that we have promised and more too.

During the first term Professor Rogers met each day a class of 18 juniors in Elementary Law and in Domestic Relations. These two subjects comprised the work of the term on his side for the Junior class. He also met daily with a class of 23 in the Senior subject of Equity Jurisprudence.

During the same term I had a junior class of 25 in Contracts which met daily; and I also had a senior class of 25 in Common Law, Equity and Code Pleadings.

During the second term Professor Rogers had a junior class of 26 in Personal Property and a Senior of 21 in Real Property.

At the same time I heard two classes daily in junior studies, one, the regular class composed of 23 students in Bailments and in Common Carriers and the other an irregular class of 10 in Contracts.

During the same (the second) term the Seniors had the subject of Evidence which occupied all but about ten days of the term. The ten days were occupied in giving a short course in the law relating to wills.

During the third and last term of the year Professor Rogers met each day with a class of 23 juniors in Criminal Law and also a class of 28 in the Senior Study of Corporations.

During the same term the juniors to the number of 27 pursued with me a course in Commercial Law in which instruction was had in the law of Guaranty, Suretyship, Partnership, and Bills of Exchange and of Promissory Notes.

I also heard during this term a second or sub-junior class of 6 new students in the Law of Contracts.

During the same term 21 students met with me daily in the law relating to the Administration of Estates, in the Theory and Practice and in the Law of Torts. The last two weeks of the term the school met with me one hour each day in the study of State Constitutional Law.

The two classes that I have designated as "sub-juniors" were composed of students who came in at the beginning of the second and third terms. On my side there was no regular subject presented at either of those terms which a beginner of Law could profitably take up and so I gave the extra work. Professor Rogers was more fortunately situated. He had regular work which the new students could pursue.

Throughout the entire year Professor Rogers has met once a week (Friday afternoon) with his students in moot court wherein the students have been given practice in the trial of moot causes and in the argument of legal questions.

During the second and third terms (and after the term in pleading) a session of the University Circuit Court has been held on Friday afternoon of each week. In this court the students have practicable work in writing pleadings, motions and demurrers and in the argument of questions arising in making up issues. They are also given practice in taking judgments and in writing judgment entries and in the conduct of probate business.

The total number of persons who have been connected with the Law School during the year is 66, ^{as students} and of these 19 have completed the prescribed course in Law.

The year has been a busy one to all connected whether as student or professor, with the Law department and it has been a profitable year to the students. The most of the students in Law have reached their majority, and appreciating as they do the great value of time, they have applied themselves to their work with great diligence. It has been a great pleasure to work with them and to note their advance in learning.

If I close this paper without suggesting ways for your spending money, it is not because ~~it is because~~ I could not suggest the ways, but rather that you have not, as I am informed and believe, the money to spend.

A fairly good library has been furnished the Law School, which prudence requires should be well cared for. It is expected that some law students will use the law library every day, and I think it safe to say that on an average not less than 40 students have used the library every work day of the past year. Many days every student has used it.

Now, books wear out by usage and worse than that, they sometimes disappear. Last year 15 or 20 books disappeared and have never been heard of since. The present year we have had very few losses, I have not heard of more than one book which has been taken.

I think that if we could have a law librarian who could and would stay in the library and keep an oversight of the books at all times, that it would result in their being handled with greater care by those using them, and that the repetition of last year's losses would not occur.

Up to this time the librarians have been students whose only compensation has been freedom from payment of term bills.

A librarian who would always be in the library in person or by a representative ought to receive more than \$37.50 per year and I believe that for \$100 a student of mature years and of grave deportment can be secured. Mr. Holmes who will be in the Senior class next year expresses himself as willing to undertake the service for this sum and to give close attention to the care of the books. I would be glad if Mr. Holmes could be thus engaged.

Professor Rogers has indicated a desire for a furlough for one year that he may attend some eastern school and thus fit himself the more for the duties of the chair he now occupies. While the professor has ably supported me in the work thus far, I never-the-less trust the Board can see the way clear to giving him the opportunity he desires. As I am informed he does not wish his leave of absence until year after next, but if it is to be given as I hope it may, some one should be in view to take his place and who would in the meantime be preparing himself for the work.

Respectfully submitted,

D. D. Banta.

1893
Jan
Judge Bank

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Respectfully submitted,
D. D. Bancroft.